

REMARKS

Claims 1-39 remain in the application.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current preliminary amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Entry of the foregoing amendment prior to the initial examination of the above-captioned application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR, & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: January 9, 2002

By: 

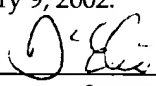
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited as First Class Mail with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to: Box Amendments, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 9, 2002.

  
Linda D'Elia

  
January 9, 2002

**Attachment: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made**

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION

The paragraph beginning on page 37, line 16, has been amended as follows:

The Encoder first compares the priority assigned to the RCs and ResDesc in the frame to the requested (or allowed) priority for transmission. If the priority for the RCs for this frame is less than or equal to the requested priority all RCs are to be retained. If the priority for the RCs for this frame is greater than the requested priority all RCs are to be dropped. This determines the value of the IRC bit. Conversion from the frame structure to a bit stream then proceeds from top to bottom in the 64 bytes frame examining each triplet of priority, #bits, and value. If priority is greater than the requested priority the triplet is skipped. If priority is less than or equal to the requested priority the number of bits specified by the # Bits column are extracted from the low end of the Value byte and forwarded to the bit stream. ~~Figure 9 summarizes the structure of the resulting bit stream.~~ It will be appreciated that this translation in this order to the bit stream results in a bit stream which is uniquely decodable at the receiving end into the individual parameters as discussed below under the Decoder operation. It will also be appreciated that there are other arrangements of the bits which provide unique decodability and may be advantageous in certain other implementations. In particular in environments with noticeable error rates imparted by the digital transmission medium, it will be advantageous to encode the IRC, EDF, RDF, and first bit of RC1 with error detection and correction codes to ensure rapid recovery of frame synchronization after channel errors occur.